

The Homer Fitts Co.

Incorporated

"The Store Where Quality Counts"

Celebrates Its Thirty-Second Birthday

By offering the public of Barre and vicinity

A Great Anniversary and Reorganization Sale

See full page advertisement on page 3

PRESIDENT WILSON ANNOUNCES TAKING OVER RAILROADS

President Wilson's proclamation that he will assume possession and operation of the railroads of continental United States Friday at noon is as follows:

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

"Whereas, The Congress of the United States, in the exercise of the constitutional authority vested in them, by joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, bearing date April 6, 1917, resolved:

"That the state of war between the United States and the imperial German government which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and that the president be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the government to carry on war against the imperial German government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

"And by joint resolution bearing date of December 7, 1917, resolved:

"That a state of war is hereby declared to exist between the United States of America and the imperial and royal Austro-Hungarian government; and that the president be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the government to carry on war against the imperial Austro-Hungarian government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

"And, whereas, it is provided by section one of the act approved August 29, 1916, entitled 'An act making appropriations for the support of the army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, and for other purposes,' as follows:

"The president, in time of war, is empowered, through the secretary of war, to take possession and assume control of any system or systems of transportation, or any part thereof, or desirable, such system or systems of transportation, or any part thereof, to the exclusion as far as may be necessary of all other traffic thereon, for the transfer or transportation of troops, war material and equipment; and that so far as such exclusive use is not necessary or desirable, such system or systems of transportation be operated and utilized.

"And, whereas, it has now become necessary in the national defense to take possession and to assume control of certain systems of transportation and to utilize the same to the exclusion as far as may be necessary of other than war traffic thereon, for the transportation of troops, war material and equipment thereon, and for the other needful and desirable purposes connected with the prosecution of the war:

"Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby, through Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, take possession and assume control at 12 o'clock noon on the 28th day of December, 1917, of each and every system of transportation and the appurtenances thereof located wholly or in part within the boundaries of the continental United States and consisting of railroads, and owned or controlled systems of coastwise and inland transportation, engaged in general transportation, whether operated by steam or by electric power, including also terminals, terminal companies and terminal associations, sleeping and parlor cars, private cars and private car lines, elevators, warehouses, telegraph and telephone lines and all other equipment and appurtenances commonly used upon or connected as a part of such rail or combined rail and water systems of transportation; to the end that such systems of transportation be utilized for the transfer and transportation of troops, war material and equipment to the exclusion so far as such exclusive use is not necessary or desirable, such systems of transportation be operated and utilized in the performance of such other services as the national interest may require and of the usual and ordinary business and duties of common carriers.

"It is hereby directed that the possession, control, operation and utilization of such transportation systems hereby by me undertaken shall be exercised by and through William G. McAdoo, who is hereby appointed and designated director-general of railroads. Said director-general may engage the duties imposed upon him, so long

"WOODROW WILSON,
"NEWTON D. BAKER,
"Secretary of War.
"By the President,
"ROBERT LANSING,
"Secretary of State."

AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE BARRE TIMES WILL BRING SURE RESULTS

Children's Clothing!

Now is the time to dress up the boy.

Widow Jones Suits and Overcoats.

Mackinaw Coats, \$5.00 to \$8.00.

Boys' Sweaters, \$1.00 to \$6.50.

Boys' Blouses, 65c.

Boys' Shirts, 50c to \$1.00.

Boys' Gloves and Mittens, 35c to \$1.00.

Let us show you.

The Frank McWhorter Co.

BARRE DAILY TIMES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1917.

The Weather

Generally fair and not quite so cold to-night and Friday; light variable winds.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Clearance sale at Abbott's.

Annual clearance sale at Abbott's.

Mrs. Dingwall has commenced work in the Pearl street restaurant.

The annual meeting of the Vincitia club will be held this evening at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. G. R. Evans has been passing several days with her daughter, Mrs. H. W. Orser, in Northfield.

The Glengie club will hold their annual banquet in the Grand hotel Friday evening, Dec. 28, at 7:30.

Peter Bianchi, who is engaged in business in Hanover, N. H., is passing a few days with friends in the city.

Frank Bacon, who was called to Barre by the death of Mrs. Lavinia Dodge, has returned to his home in Randolph.

Music furnished for all occasions by Montpelier M. band orchestra, Karl Forster, manager, phone Montpelier 252-W.

The mission circle of the Universalist church will meet Friday, Jan. 4, at 2:30 o'clock. Please bear in mind change in date.

Clarence McDermott of Brookfield came to Barre today to attend the funeral of Mrs. C. B. Tilden of Prospect street.

Edward Kingston, who is employed near Trenton, N. J., is passing the holiday season in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kingston of the west hill.

Alton R. Briggs, who recently terminated his connection with the Homer Fitts store, has located in Burlington, where he is employed in the Abernethy store.

All bonds of the second Liberty loan, with exception of registered bonds and bonds of \$100 denomination, are now ready for delivery at the Granite Savings Bank & Trust Co.

Mrs. B. E. Haskins and daughter, Margaret, who have been spending the holidays at the home of W. A. Price of Branch street, returned to their home in Waterbury yesterday.

Raymond Eastman, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Eastman of Eastern avenue, has enrolled in a government radio school near Boston in the expectancy of seeing service as a wireless operator.

Charles Flint and Bonnie Prestini, who have been visiting friends in the city for a few days, returned yesterday to Quincy, Mass., where they are employed in the plant of the Fore River Shipbuilding company.

Verdi Bruno of North Main street is passing the week in Batavia, N. Y., having gone there to join Mrs. Bruno, who was called to Batavia last week by the death of her brother, Alexander Corti, a former resident of Barre.

Ask me about it—no, not the war, Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. or any other of these causes we are all interested in, but the way to save your money so to give more to each cause next year. That is by having a Christmas club for 1918 at the Barre Savings Bank & Trust Co.

Miss Mildred Hazen of Windsor is spending several days in the city as a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Brown of Bassett street. Robert Brown, who has been visiting at his home here for a few days, returned yesterday to Windsor, where he conducts a clothing store.

Knights of St. Aldemar commandery, No. 11, K. T., gathered in their assembly in the Blanchard building Christmas day for a brief ceremony that is carried out among Knights Templar throughout the world. At noon there was a silent toast to deceased members of the organization, and brief remarks were made by several present.

Patrick Lynch, who was released yesterday from the county jail, returned to Barre today and is continuing efforts to persuade his son, Bernard, to return here. The Lynch boy, who is less than 16 years old, is staying on the farm of F. E. Fuller in Middlesex. The youngster ran away several weeks ago, stopping only when the cold weather compelled him to seek shelter in the home of the Fullers.

Barre lodge, No. 128, N. E. O. P., held an interesting annual meeting last evening and marked the occasion by electing officers for 1918. The new slate is written as follows: Warden, Mrs. Horatio W. Scott; vice warden, Mrs. Frank W. Langlois; secretary, Charles A. Spear; financial secretary, Miss Ethel M. Spear; treasurer, Archie W. Taft; chaplain, Mrs. Archie W. Taft; guide, Archie Adams; guardian, Mrs. Frank H. Burke; trustee, Earl M. Lewis. Reports from several officers were read and were well received, inasmuch as they indicated a healthy condition of affairs in the local N. E. O. P. lodge. It was voted to hold the annual installation at the second meeting next month, which falls on Jan. 23.

Baneroft's inn at Plainfield was the destination chosen by the members of the 1917 graduates of Spaulding high school for holding a class reunion following a sleigh ride last evening. About 35 members of the class, together with several invited guests, left the high school in two large sleighs procured from the Papin and Gow stables around 6 o'clock, with Miss Eva G. Smith of the high school faculty acting as chaperon of the party. Upon their arrival at Plainfield the graduates found a bounteous chicken supper prepared to appease their appetites, and it did not go without saying that the party did full justice to the hospitality of the management of the hotel. After the supper an informal program of dances, music for which was furnished by the Morgan and Ericson orchestra, was enjoyed by a large number of those present, while various other forms of entertainment provided no end of enjoyment for all present. The return to the city was made at a late hour.

Card of Thanks.
I wish to express my sincere thanks to all who sent me postcards on Christmas day.
Mrs. Jennie Hall.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

WANTED TO BUY—Small safe; inquire at Hotel Barre.
TO RENT—Two unfurnished rooms suitable for office or for St. Louis house; apply to G. L. Woodworth, Eastman block, tel. 454-2.

Special communication of St. Aldemar commandery, K. T., Dec. 27, at 7:30 p. m. Work, Red Cross degree.

Special communication of St. Aldemar commandery, K. T., Dec. 28, at 7:30 p. m. Work, E. A. degree. Per order W. M.

A special meeting of the Grand Lodge, No. 128, F. & A. M., Friday, Dec. 28, at 7:30 p. m. Work, E. A. degree. Per order W. M.

Regular meeting of Barre lodge, No. 1273, F. O. E. R., on Thursday evening, Dec. 27, at 7:30 o'clock.

TALK OF THE TOWN

Clearance sale at Abbott's.

Gage & Gage, chiropractors, office will be closed from Saturday at 10 a. m., Dec. 22, to Thursday, 6:30 p. m., Dec. 27.

Church of the Good Shepherd—The Christmas tree and exercises will be held in the vestry of the church to-morrow (Friday) evening at 7:30 o'clock. Hooverize in your kitchen—economize in your expenditures—and save all your spare change in a Christmas club. Now open at the Barre Savings Bank & Trust Co.

FATHER'S LITTLE JOKE.

The Way It Does Not Impress His Wife and Daughter.

When a man hears a joke which his primitive sense of humor classifies as "the funniest thing he has ever heard" he hurries home to bear the glad tidings to his wife. Father produces his great discovery, but mother's countenance remains untroubled by so much as a smile. Nine wives out of ten will gaze blankly into that interesting emptiness to which woman's eyes are continually traveling over her husband's shoulder. The tenth and cruellest creature will wither her spouse with a penetrating stare which registers "I see nothing—absolutely nothing—funny in that."

Disgusted and baffled, the husband tells the same joke to his daughter. Her only indication of amusement is a plying uplift of the eyebrows and a subsequent absorption in her knitting.

With his finger on the last unbroken string of hope father approaches his nearest masculine relative. At last success is his, for his son or his son-in-law or his uncle roars, applauds and slaps him on the back. Father bows to imaginary audiences and compliments his fellow man on his perspicacity and his fortunate possession of a sense of humor. He plies "those women, those poor, defective women." — New York Evening Sun.

THE OLD STARCH DOES IT.

Why Collars Crack in Laundering and How to Save Them.

In laundering collars and shirts the first thing to be done is to get the old starch out of them. No amount of washing in water, hot or cold, will do this, for water does not dissolve starch. Cracked collars are due to the old starch being left in the fabric and new starch being put on top of it.

In the words of Wright Van Deusen in the National Laundry Journal, "the old starch remaining in the goods crystallizes under the heat and pressure of the ironing machine and puts the fiber in a brittle condition; hence when bent for pressing through the finishing machine it cracks. Remove the old starch, and with the uniform consistency of everything that is good in new starch, the collar will be so pliable that it can be bent between finger and thumb with little danger of damage."

The remedy is very simple. It is that used by most of the largest collar manufacturers—the dissolving of the old starch with a liquid malt extract called diastase. This turns the starch into sugar and takes it out of the fabric. One laundry in Troy handles 275,000 dozen collars a week and has so few broken collars that it pays its inspectors a bonus of 2½ cents for each one found.

The Anthracite Jehu.

The coal cart driver is nature's most wonderful dialectician. He knows all the profane branches of his mother tongue. When a coal cart driver obstructs a motorist it is fifty-fifty which insults courtesy most. The papers never mention it because cold print cannot reproduce fervor.

The coal cart driver treats diamonds with disrespect and has no favors for millionaires. Why should one koto who sits upon a dusty fortune? Never! And he tosses coal into your car as if it were worth no more than Irish potatoes or automobiles.

Still, for the coal cart driver we have some veneration. At least he is not uppish, at least he is democratic, at least he mingles without pride and does not wear a wrist watch.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Bessarabia.

The original inhabitants of Bessarabia are believed to have been Cimmericians, after whom came the Scythians. Because it was the key to one of the approaches toward the empire of Byzantium the province was invaded by many successive races during the early centuries of the Christian era. Trajan incorporated it with the province of Dacia, and in the next century the Goths poured into it, to be followed in turn by the Huns, the Avars and the Bulgarians. In the seventh century a Thracian tribe, known as the Bessi, settled there and gave to the land its name.

Colors of Austria.

The Austrian black and yellow were the colors of the Holy Roman Empire. They were adopted, so the story goes, by Frederick Barbarossa, whose fancy was captured at a ceremony in Mayence by the black and gold flooring of the hall.

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Union Dry Goods Company

This Week, An After Christmas Clean-up Sale

Our remaining stocks of Christmas merchandise will be offered at special sale prices during the balance of this week.

HOLIDAY STATIONERY AT COST—
The balance of our Christmas Boxed Stationery will be on sale while it lasts at wholesale prices.

ALL IVORY GOODS AT 25 PER CENT. OFF.

Our remaining stock of Colonial Ivory Sets and Separate Pieces at 25 per cent. discount.

SALE OF WAISTS AT \$2.98

Pretty new Waists in Crepe de Chine, Flesh and White. Regular price \$3.50.

SPECIAL SALE OF FURS

Everything in Furs, Muffs, Scarfs and Sets at 25 per cent. discount.

ALL FANCY NOVELTIES AT 25 PER CENT. OFF

Everything in Ribbon and other Fancy Goods at this very liberal discount.

SALE OF WAISTS AT \$3.98

Handsome new Georgette Waists in Flesh and White, regular price \$5.00.

All Suits, Coats and Dresses at Clearance Prices

Now is the time to buy. All alterations made without extra charge.

A Clearance Sale of Suits at \$15.00, \$18.75 and \$22.75, formerly priced at \$22.50, \$30.00 and \$35.00.

A CLEARANCE SALE OF COATS at \$14.50, \$17.50 and \$20.00, formerly priced at \$19.50, \$22.50 and \$27.50.

EVERY WOOL AND SILK DRESS MARKED AT RADICAL REDUCTIONS.

Remember, every garment offered in this sale is new and in this season's best styles.

THE UNION DRY GOODS COMPANY

MONTPELIER

Alderman Ryan Claims Street Department Wrongly Represented.

The regular city council meeting would have passed off Wednesday evening in a quiet manner had it not been for an innocent question asked by Mayor Mitchell of Alderman Ryan of the street committee as to his department and if there was any income developing from it. Alderman Ryan explained the work being accomplished and then took exception to the report of the newspaper men of some previous meeting, that the street department was the only one behind. Finally, he agreed it was so, but that the reports did not go far enough, explaining the reason, namely that money had been borrowed from it for other departments. He carried the discussion over after the meeting and his reply as to whether he was a candidate for mayor in the coming year was first answered affirmatively and then negatively, leaving his associates, including Mayor Mitchell, much in the dark as to where he stands in the matter. The earlier part of the meeting was given to routine business. The abatement on the sprinkling assessment of T. J. Heaphy was allowed. The water committee was given authority to allow the food conservation committee the use of such land as is needed next year on the city property near Berlin pond, the same to be under the supervision of the water committee. Alderman Gallaher stated that the conservation committee had arranged for the use of Langdon meadow next year through the efforts of the school commissioners.

As a result of the recent ruling of the public service commission a change in the rates on the city's lighting contract was made; namely, the commission found that the rate being charged the city on its inside lighting was too low and claimed it was discrimination, so the rate was moved from four cents, or what it might be in the different buildings to six and two-thirds cents, the normal rate for such lighting. This increase was figured and the amount deducted from the contract for lighting the streets and the portion which belongs to the school department so voted. The total sum amounted to about \$500.

The state fuel administrator has received notice that the Lyman Coal company of Burlington is now receiving coal, which will be gratifying news to their patrons. The concern is middleman for many of the smaller coal dealers in Vermont. They have been very short of coal but with the arrival of more fuel it will help out materially in the localities where they supply coal to the dealers. Of course, this only helps their own patrons unless the fuel administrator deflects coal to some needy place. Effort is now being made to locate some independent coal wholesalers with the hope that perhaps coal can be obtained through some of these for Vermont.

William H. Jeffery, secretary of the board of charities and probate, this morning received notice that Hershel Hitecock of Hardwick was arrested last night on the charge of breaking his probation. He was placed on probation after having been found guilty of breach of peace, and the report to the probation officer last night was that he was alleged that he had stolen chickens on three different occasions since placed on probation and that on Christmas day he was intoxicated and made considerable disturbance, including the injury of faces of those associated with him in the home where he lives. His trial occurs in St. Johnsbury by the municipal judge Friday.

Judge E. M. Harvey was in Northfield today for the trial of two cases of State against Mr. and Mrs. Albin, who were charged with larceny. It is a jury trial and is interesting in view of the fact that it was started before a justice and when partly tried, by agreement of the attorneys, it was transferred to Montpelier city court with the trial to be in Northfield. The respondents, it is alleged, stole household effects. Frank Plumley is prosecuting for John Moseley, grand juror, while the respondents were represented by William White and A. G. Fay.

In probate court Wednesday afternoon Harriet Davis settled her account of the estate of Burt V. Davis, late of Plainfield. G. E. Sanders of Calais was appointed administrator of the estate of Fred A. Burnham, late of the same town, and H. F. Scribner of that town was appointed executor, with will annexed, of the estate of Betsey Marsh, late of that town.

The southbound morning mail train on the Central Vermont railway was an hour and a half late this morning because of a derailment near St. Albans and waiting for the northbound night express.

C. L. U. COMMITTEES

Were Named at the Last Regular Meeting of That Body.

Standing committees for the ensuing six months have been delegated by the Central Labor union of Barre to complete the election of officers at the last regular meeting. The committees have been named as follows:

Credentials—Angus McDonald of the barters, George Ross of the bakers, Harold Kniss of the barbers' union.

Label and unionizing committee—Fred W. Sutor of the lumpers, Wesley Hoffman of the cigar makers, Arthur Lund King of the quarry workers for Graniteville, George E. Ross for East Barre.

Organizing committee—James Cruickshank of the granite cutters, Cyrus R. Hall of the carpenters, John Donald of the paving cutters for Westerville, Arthur Rousse of the steam engineers for Graniteville.

Education committee—W. Pirie of the polishers, A. J. Young of the tool sharpeners, L. A. Carpenter of the typographical union, J. J. McMahon of the machinists, Garret Roberts of the plumbers.

Press—Alexander Ironside of the granite cutters, Angus McDonald of the barters.

Resolution committee—F. W. Sutor of the lumpers, James Cruickshank of the granite cutters, Angus McDonald, John Coscan of the quarry workers.

Music furnished for all occasions by Montpelier M. band orchestra, Karl Forster, manager, phone Montpelier 252-W.

All bonds of the first Liberty loan, both 3½s and convertible 4s, with exception of registered bonds, are now ready for delivery at the Granite Savings Bank & Trust Co.

We Can Show You that You Save Money on Rubber Footwear by Buying "Ball-Band"

It pays to get good quality in Rubber Footwear, for quality means service and more days' wear. If you will figure your rubber footwear according to cost per day's service, "Ball-Band" is the cheapest.



The "Ball-Band" Coon Tail Knit Boot is knit—*not felt*—and this means that it will give longer, warmer wear and service. "Ball-Band" Articles come in one, two and four buckles. The tops are best casimere and the linings are the same wool that goes into the Coon Tail Knit Boot.

Don't buy any rubber footwear until you have seen our showing of "Ball-Band." Come in and see it now.

People's Shoe Store

C. S. ANDREWS, Prop.,

Currier Block, Barre, Vermont

Meet Me at the Twelfth Annual Exhibition

OF THE

Vermont Poultry Association

IN THE

Pavilion Theatre

Pearl Street, Barre, Vt., Jan. 1, 2, 3

A free lecture will be given Wednesday evening in the City Court Room at 7:30 by Judge Coffin of Freeport, Me.

Admission: Season Tickets, \$1.00; Single Admission 25c; Children under 15 years, 10c

A Cure for Cold Feet While Driving

Clark Carriage Heaters and Genuine Clark Coal

C. W. Averill & Co.

Telephone 500 Barre, Vermont

After Christmas Reductions

A few odd Silk Waists in Stripes and Plain Colors.

Serge, Silk and Velvet Dresses.

All Hats in our stock.

A few Novelty Bags left.

Children's Togue Sets.

Odd sizes in Voile Waists.

Articles above mentioned put to the lowest price possible.

Mrs. Shepard Co.

Inc.